

Attorney's Docket No. **D0590/7011**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Plaetinck et al.  
Serial No : Not assigned  
Filed : Herewith (January 25, 2002)  
For : CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING DOUBLE  
STRANDED RNA INHIBITION

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment as follows, prior to calculation of the fees.

**In the Specification:**

Please add the following paragraph as the first paragraph of the specification following the title.

**Related Applications**

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application serial number 09/347,311, entitled CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING DOUBLE STRANDED RNA INHIBITION, filed July 2, 1999, and now pending.

**Remarks**

Applicants have amended the specification to include related application information.  
No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 25, 2002  
xNDD

586862.1

**Newly added section**

**Related Applications**

This application is a divisional of U.S. patent application serial number 09/347,311, entitled CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING DOUBLE STRANDED RNA INHIBITION, filed July 2, 1999, and now pending.

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